

SECRET WAR SCRIPT

ISSUE TWO

BY BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS

Editors- the superhero monologues are subject to change if anything happens with the characters between now and then that needs to reflect in the book. But this is the tone of voice I hope they have.

Page 1-

1- Tight on the shield of Captain America deflecting a couple of bullets.

Type reads: ONE YEAR AGO

CAPTAIN AMERICA NARATION

A billion years ago, during world war two, I was  
created to stand in defence of the American dream.

To represent it and defend it.

2- Ext. U.N.- Day

Wide profile. Of the front steps of the U.N., Cap, coming in from the right is charging a handful of black dressed, high tech terrorists trying to kidnap one of the diplomats.

Cap is standing between them and their large getaway van. There are civilians on the street in the proper amount of awe and panic.

KIDNAPPER

In the name of- Agghh!!

KIDNAPPER

Don't!!

CAPTAIN AMERICA NARATION

Here I am a billion years later and instead of goose-stepping Nazi's...

I'm fighting masked terrorists kidnapping their own countries ambassador...

...right on the steps of the United Nations.

3- Cap throws his shield right at us with everything he has. In mid air, it blocks three bullets being fired right at him.

CAPTAIN AMERICA NARATION

I don't have time for fancy. I don't have time for speeches.

(Not that they deserve either.)

They might have chemical weapons on them.

They might try to blow themselves up to make a point no one in this country will ever understand.

I know I won't.

Page 2-

1- Ext. Brooklyn rooftop- dusk

Mid wide, Cap on a dusty dirty Brooklyn rooftop, in profile, full figure. He looks to be in a foul, contemplative mood.

Behind him Brooklyn glows red at sunset.

CAPTAIN AMERICA NARATION

I never will.

2- Same but tighter. Cap pulls off his mask. A sullen look as he contemplates his life. Lost in thought.

NICK FURY

(off panel)

Is it getting harder?

3- From behind Cap looking at the rooftop entrance of the roof he is standing on. Nick Fury is standing there hands in his long stylish coat.

Walls of buildings box in the background.

4- From behind Nick, Cap, maskless approaches, rubbing his shoulder.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

You're the infamous Nick Fury, you tell me.

NICK FURY

You did good back there, Captain. Just read the Intel.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Didn't feel like it.

5- Nick shrugs and looks Cap in the eyes.

NICK FURY

I know what you mean.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Something going on?

NICK FURY

Somethings going on.

6- Cap hasn't seen Nick like this and squints to figure him out.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

How bad?

Page 3-

1- Cap's p.o.v. Nick Fury looks at his hands as he holds them about a foot apart. He twists his mouth like he just ate a lemon.

2- Same. Then Nick looks up at us with a serious look as he pulls his hands far apart from each other as if to say: Its a really big problem.

3- Cap takes off his shield and gets ready to go inside. Nick stops him from even thinking it.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Ok, alright, I'll assemble the Aven-

NICK FURY

No. No Avengers.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

What?

NICK FURY

No Avengers. No S.H.I.E.L.D.

4- Cap is confused.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

What do you need then?

5- Tight on Nick he is about to do something he really shouldn't. This is the moment he is crossing the line.

6- Cap squints, trying to figure out what Nick is thinking.

7- Same as 5.

NICK FURY

Something secret.

8- Cap squints, this is very unlike his old friend.

PAGE 4-

Recap and credits

Luke Cage, Hero for Hire is ambushed by a mystery female figure in his own apartment. He lies in a coma.

Flashback to a year ago. Nick Fury, director of S.H.I.E.L.D., The world peacekeeping task force and international espionage coalition, discovers the alarming fact that dozens of low rent technology based supercriminals are being secretly funded by what America thinks is a new ally. The new prime minister of Latveria.

When Fury tells the president his alarming news, that these criminals are now technically terrorists, he is blown off and dismissed.

Fury, in a panic, knowing that something big is brewing, something nightmarish vows to do something to stop this even if his government won't.

Page 5-

1- Ext. Hell's kitchen- late day

Big panel, high looking down.

Daredevil is heaving up towards us. Daredevil is already half up a lamp post and headed towards the roof.

Below him we see a small stunned crowd watches on the street below. A mugger is being held at gunpoint by police. Clearly Daredevil got in and got out with great skill and grace.

DAREDEVIL NARATION

The police yell after me.

The woman who'se purse I saved from drug addled teenagers cries into her shaking hands.

They think I am out of ear shot, but I never am.

I am blind and will be forever.

But my other senses create a world for me that I have decided is better than sight.

2- Int. Nelson and Murdock- Same

Matt Murdock strolls in his front door and adjusts his tie with one hand. Like he never stopped moving.

He has his blind cane and huge red glasses.

DAREDEVIL NARATION

I was just looking for a quick run from courthouse to my Hell's Kitchen law office.

But I couldn't let this woman-

RECEPTIONIST

Good morning, Mr. Murdock.

3- Matt approaches the reception desk with the receptionist I have yet to name.

There are a couple of interns milling about with files, this law office is in full swing. The office is running itself.

Matt takes a handful of braille messages from the receptionist as she politely fills him in.

RECEPTIONIST

Your tea is almost ready.

MATT MURDOCK

Thank you.

RECEPTIONIST

These are the calls from this morning. And Mr. Nelson is out of the office for the rest of the day.

DAREDEVIL NARATION

I know before I turn around.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh and you're Two o clock is here to see you.

4- Matt turns to see...

RECEPTIONIST

New client.

DAREDEVIL NARATION

I smell the cigar stench permanently driven into the stitch of every inch of his clothes and the folds of his skin.

4- Nick Fury, full figure, standing outside the big brown door to Matt's office. He is sturdy and serious. Nick knows Matt knows he is there.

DAREDEVIL NARATION

He is gnashing his teeth together and probably doesn't even know he's doing it.

Nick Fury.

5- Tight on Matt- he is trying to make sense of this.

DAREDEVIL NARATION

Nick Fury is in my office.

Why the hell would Nick Fury be in my office?

1- Ext. Harlem basketball court- dusk

High looking down at Luke Cage barking right up at us with rage This is the p.o.v. Of a teenager he is holding over his head.

LUKE CAGE

What's my name!!??

2- Wide of the basket ball court.

Profile two shot- Luke is busting up a drug deal at the corner of a fenced in B- ball court.

A couple of black kids are running away as Luke has grabbed one teenager by the collar of his Jordan jersey and is holding him up over his head with one hand.

Luke barks up into the kid's face like an animal. Luke is clearly trying a 'scared straight' angle and from the look on the kid's face it is working.

A basketball bounces. Money flies. Drugs fall to the ground.

PUNK

I-

LUKE CAGE

What's my name!!??

PUNK

L-L-Luke Cage.

LUKE CAGE

What's my name??!!

PUNK

L- Luke Cage!!

3- Over Luke's huge leather jacketed shoulder as he shakes this sixteen year old into a new life. The kids has tears rolling down his face- the blood rushing to his head.

LUKE CAGE

And the next time you even think about comin'  
around here trying to sell that stuff I want you to  
remember that name!!

Say it- say my name!!

PUNK



Luke Cage- P-Power man.

4- Mid wide. Luke throws the kid towards the exit, the kid stops his fall forward by starting to run.

LUKE CAGE

Get outta my face and get outta Harlem!!

5- Luke smashes his drugs under foot.

Sfx: crunch

6- Luke, alone on the court, bends to pick up the money that fell out of the drug dealer's pocket.

NICK FURY

(off panel)

Always wondered, after a drug bust, What do you  
do with the money?

7- Over Luke's shoulder looking wide of the rest of the court. Nick Fury is leaning on the opening of the fence. Waiting for him.

PAGE 7-

1- Ext. Queens high school- late day

Big panel. QUEENS. Spidey swings up and away from the main building of the high school he teaches at. a backpack over his shoulders.

Spider-man flings his body towards us. A man with a destination. He is more than just swinging- he is throwing his body into the air.

SPIDER-MAN NARATION

I am so so so out of here.

When the love of my life...

(The stunning and vivacious Mary Jane Watson  
Parker...)

Says she is waiting for me for what she promised  
was going to be 'a night to remember...'

2- Spidey swings up and away from us. Heading towards the Queensborough bridge in the distance.

He is Clearing a dozen blocks in a swing as hundreds of New Yorkers below scramble for home.

#### SPIDER-MAN NARATION

I don't know exactly what that means, but it  
certainly sounds better than being punched in the  
face by a man made out of sand.

In fact, what I would really like to do is get all the  
way from Queens to Manhattan without running  
into the Green Goblin...

Or the Hobgoblin...

Or the Antigoblin or any kind of goblin thing  
person.

3- Profile of Spidey swinging. The big red sun behind him.

#### SPIDER-MAN NARATION

I would like to just once, just this once, I would like  
to just spend the night with my wife

(Who puts up with oh so much crap from my alter  
ego.)

4- Int. Peter Parker's apartment- Same

Spidey flips into the open window and lands in his bedroom. This is the bedroom of Mary Jane and Peter Parker. Its a mess but it is a married mess. Lots of girl stuff.

#### SPIDER-MAN NARATION

And just- made it!!

Made it. Home.

5- Peter is pulling off his Spidey shirt but he cocks an eyebrow to the side. He hears voices coming from the other room.

### SPIDER-MAN NARATION

I'm home and no one got tossed off a bridge or tried to eat the planet and- oh crap!!

Voices.

There's someone in our apartment.

6- Tight on the door. Peter peaks his head out the door of his bedroom. All we see is his eye peaking out.

### SPIDER-MAN NARATION

Tsk, now I have to go back outside and up and around and put on my clothes and enter through the front door and- who- who is that?

(I know that voice.)

Page 8-

1- Peter's p.o.v. Peeking past his door, down the hall, there's Nick Fury in his living room with Mary jane. A poorly framed

2- Bedroom. Peter, still shirtless, is stunned. He stands back up and winces at the intrusion.

### SPIDER-MAN NARATION

Oh, Oh man, Nick Fury?

Nick Fury??

What's he- what the- what's he doing here?

What's he doing in my civilian Peter Parker life?

He's not supposed to be in my civilian Peter Parker life?

3- Same as 1, this page, but Nick fury, still sitting in his seat looks right back at him/ us.

4- Bedroom- Peter steps back and winces at himself. The jig is up.

### PETER PARKER NARATION

Damn!

He saw me!! crap!

Crapity crap crap crap!

Page 9-

1- Int. Peter's living room- Same

Gorgeous MJ in the foreground turns to see a trepidation Peter, dressed in his civilian Peter Parker clothes, walking lightly into his own living room from the hall.

He is walking in like he is a little boy in some kind of trouble.

PETER PARKER

Uh... hi.

2- From behind Peter. Mary Jane approaches with a fake smile. Nick sits as before in the background.

MARY JANE

Look who's here, honey...

PETER PARKER

Yeah...

MARY JANE

In our house...

PETER PARKER

Colonel...

3- From behind Nick, two shot of MJ and Peter.

Peter, concerned, not knowing where this is going gently holds out his hand to shake Nick Fury's hand.

PETER PARKER

I thought we had some kind of understanding or something...

NICK FURY

We did.

4- Three shot. Peter looks at MJ, having his little tantrum. MJ is not happy about any of this.

NICK FURY

I'm cashing in a favor for that thing that time.

MARY JANE

Oh, I don't like this.

PETER PARKER

...You want to borrow money?

NICK FURY

Cute. What are you doing next week?

6- Peter turns and asks his wife. Nick fury calmly and quietly explains himself.

PETER PARKER

What am I doing next week?

MARY JANE

Nothing he wants you to-

NICK FURY

You're going on a trip.

No costume, no webs.

Just you- Peter Parker.  
You're going on a trip.

7- Peter is very confused. MJ is immediately, but quietly, nervous for her husband. Nick doesn't repeat himself.

PETER PARKER  
No costume?

Where am I going?

Page 10-

1- Ext. JFK airport- night

Wide establishing shot of the hustle and bustle of JFK airport.

Get reference, its a real place.

ANNOUNCEMENT  
FLIGHT 456 TO LATVERIA IS IN FINAL  
BOARDING.

FINAL BOARDING FOR FLIGHT 456 TO  
LATVERIA.

2- Int. JFK airport- Same

Peter Parker, with a bag over his arm (he packed light) is walking quickly, not running or causing commotion, through the densely packed NYC airport.

Peter is in a panic to reach his flight.

ANNOUNCEMENT  
FLIGHT 456 TO LATVERIA IS IN FINAL  
BOARDING. FINAL BOARDING FOR FLIGHT  
456 TO LATVERIA.

PETER PARKER NARATION  
Oh no! Oh god!

3- SECURITY- Peter is being checked by security as his bag is rummaged through. Peter looks like he is going to wet his pants, he is terrified to miss his flight.

ANNOUNCEMENT  
FLIGHT 456 TO LATVERIA IS IN FINAL  
BOARDING. FINAL BOARDING FOR FLIGHT  
456 TO LATVERIA.

PETER PARKER NARATION  
Come on, come on!!!

4- TERMINAL- Peter half runs and waves up to an empty terminal. The plane has already boarded and the woman is just closing the door to the loading bay.

PETER PARKER  
Oh no, oh please!! Please!! Please don't-

5- Int. Plane- Same

Peter is on the plane. Wide eyed, still coming down from the panic. The stewardess is greeting him gently.

PETER PARKER NARATION  
Oh man, can you imagine if I missed this flight? He  
would have killed me in my sleep.

Literally.

Ok, relax, its over.

You're going first class. First class, baby...

6- Same but tighter on Peter, his mouth drops open. He is amazed.

Page 11-

1- Int. Plane- first class section- Same

Over Peter's shoulder, its first class. And its just full of superheroes!!!

On the left-

First row- is empty except for a leather jacket and a cowboy hat. Someone is sitting there but is in the bathroom.

Middle row- Matt Murdock sits in the window seat and basks in the sun of his little window.

Third row- behind him Luke Cage sits there listening to his headphones.

On the right-

First row- an unassuming teenage girl playing a color gameboy and listening to headphones.

She is a very important character but from this shot you could not tell. She looks like Angelina Jolie in the movie HACKERS. Beautiful but doesn't care about her looks, vaguely punk, but not overtly so.

In the middle row is two portly businessmen talking about whatever portly business men talk about.

We can't see the third row right from this angle but someone is sitting there.

A lovely stewardess is closing the curtain to coach.

2- Peter approaches Matt with his mouth hanging open.

PETER PARKER

Matt Murdock?

3- Matt never stops sunning his face out the window but smiles at the familiar voice, they are friends.

MATT MURDOCK

Peter Parker.

3- Two shot. Peter sits next to Matt. We can see Luke behind them listening to his tunes. Peter is stunned. If Matt is he doesn't let his face show it.

PETER PARKER

What- what are you doing here?

MATT MURDOCK

I guess the same thing you are.

PETER PARKER

(whispers)



Do you know exactly what that is?

MATT MURDOCK

No. You?

PETER PARKER

(whispers)

Guy like that says get on a plane- I get on a plane.

MATT MURDOCK

Exactly.

PETER PARKER

And now here's you on the same plane. This is-

(whispers)

Is- is- is that Luke Cage behind us?

MATT MURDOCK

Yes.

4- Peter's mouth is hanging open. Stunned. Amazed. He has no idea what is going on.

STEWARDESS

Excuse me sir... Sir?

5- From behind Peter Parker, mid wide of first class, An agitated stewardess is banging on the bathroom door in front of the cockpit. She is holding a tray of cocktails.

STEWARDESS

We are getting ready for take off, you're going to have to take your seat.

Spx: bump bump

6- Same, the stewardess stumbles back a bit as the door bumps open and a burp blasts her in the face.

STEWARDESS

Sir, I need you to-

Page 12- 13

Double page spread

1- Big panel. Peter's p.o.v. Logan, drunk comes rambling out of the bathroom.

Its Logan- Wolverine, drunk and in rare form.

LOGAN

Just dropping the kids off at the pool, toots.

Don't get your kerchief in a twist.

2- Same angle. Logan takes all the drinks off her tray and smiles lechously at the stunned stewardess.

3- Same angle. Logan looks right at us/ Peter.

LOGAN

Hhheeyyy...

4- Logan's p.o.v. A little high looking down. Peter Parker's eyes are wide. Matt looks like he smells a shit- Logan is offensive.

PETER PARKER

Oh no...

LOGAN

Sniff...

5- Logan smells the air, smelling Peter's scent.

LOGAN

Sniff...

6- Same as 4.

PETER PARKER

Oh no.

5- From behind Peter, Logan sits in the seat in front of Peter, but has turned to face both Peter and Matt. One of his drinks hanging over the edge.

LOGAN

I know you.

PETER PARKER

Oh no...

LOGAN

You're...

PETER PARKER

Please don't...

6- Profile, three shot. Logan hanging over the edge and smiling. He has his hand to his mouth to whisper a secret.

LOGAN

(whispers)

Hey, hey. Look at you. Never met you out of costume.

PETER PARKER

Shh!

LOGAN

(whispers)

You shhh! Never met you in civvies.

PETER PARKER

Never met you drunk.

LOGAN

Sure you have.

Hey, what the hell is a guy like you-

MATT MURDOCK

(whispers)

Logan, don't you have a metal skeleton?

How did you even get on the plane?

7- Logan smiles with one eye open knocking his head with a knuckle. The stewardess is coming up and touching Logan's shoulder gently.

LOGAN

The 'plate in my head?'

I have a special card.

STEWARDESS

Sir, I'm going to have to ask you to turn around and sit-

8- Logan sneers back at her, scaring her a little. Logan doesn't like to be touched.

LOGAN

Toots, if you want to make out with me that bad, just-

STEWARDESS

Sir.

STEVE RODGERS

Hey!!

Do what the lady says...

Page 14-

1- Steve Rodgers, sitting in the third row right, puts down his National Geographic and half stands and leans forward- his huge, gorgeous, blonde frame has a laminate around his neck which clearly is his Avengers diplomatic immunity.

He is Captain America and he is out. He is giving Wolverine the Army snake eye.

STEVE RODGERS

...or I'll remove you from the plane.

Got it, soldier?!

2- From behind Steve Rodger's, Peter Parker is amazed.

Logan shrugs it off. He's not going to fight Cap on the plane. Unconsciously, the stewardess is just dreamy eyed at Cap.

LOGAN

Alright, alright...

Don't get your flag in a twist.

3- Steve sits down and goes back to his national geographic.

4- Logan, sitting in his seat, steams a little. He doesn't like taking shit.

5- Luke Cage cocks an eyebrow and looks at Steve out of the corner of his eye.

He was watching the whole thing but looks like he is listening to his Walkman.

6- Matt Murdock looks concerned. He has no idea what is going on.

7- Peter Parker's sits with his eyes wide open. He is in waaaay over his head. Not happy everyone knows his secret identify.

8- Similar angle to what Peter walked in. Wide of the cabin. Everyone sits staring ahead in their own personal cloud.

9- Same, but tighter on the seventeen year old teenage girl. She is sitting in the front seat playing with her gum and side eyeballing Wolverine in the seat across from her.

10- Same but tighter. Tight on the girl. She smirks. She is part of the group and nobody knows.

11- Ext. Plane- Same

The plane takes off into the brilliant sky of New York city. Flying towards the right.

Page 15-

Ext. Latveria- day

A gorgeous shot of the city from a market square in the heart of the capital city looking out to the mountains of Latveria. Hovering over the entire shot in the far distance is what was Castle Doom!

The castle is so huge that even miles away it hovers over the city with an air of oppression.

Castle Doom, a huge 110-room castle built in the 16th Century by the Latverian nobleman Count Sabbat, which overlooks the Latverian capital of Doomstadt (formerly Haasensstadt).

The city itself looks like Madrid forty years ago. It's an oppressed country. It looks like an antique. Its decay is a character unto itself.

But the mountains are gorgeous.

Reads: Latveria

Page 16-

1- Int. Latverian airport- day

A middle aged, roly poly man in an ill fitting suit has a big kiss ass smile slapped on his weasly face as he approaches us with his hand out to shake.

LATVERIAN AMBASSADOR

Mr. Rodgers!!

How good to see you!!

2- Wide of the airport as described last issue.

Everything in Latveria looks like Madrid, Spain if it were in the middle of Iraq. The airport looks like Kuwait.

Soldiers everywhere. Every civilian in the airport looks emotionally repressed and scared. Terror part of their everyday lives.

Soldiers question anyone who looks out of the ordinary.

Our group of heroes is sticking close and have packed light.

Parker, Murdock, Luke and Logan watch as Steve Rodgers, with a huge portfolio sized bag that clearly holds his shield is greeted and escorted away by the escort and his assistant and a small army escort.

No one seems to even notice the group of heroes and there's no reason they should.

And the heroes don't notice the teenage girl who is standing behind them being very quiet.

STEVE RODGERS

Good of you to meet me, ambassador.

LATVERIAN AMBASSADOR

I am the- the Latverian attache of the, how you say, domestic affairs.

I am to take you to your hotel suite, yes, thank you.

3- From behind Luke and the gang, Steve Rodgers is headed towards the limo waiting for him outside the big windows.

Peter Parker turns around and in his typically neurotic fashion shrugs his shoulders and hits Matt with the questions.

LATVERIAN AMBASSADOR

Thank you so much for coming, the prime minister is very...

LUKE CAGE

And, what the hell are we supposed to do?

PETER PARKER

Do any of you speak whatever they speak here?

4- The group just stands there in the middle of the airport. They really have no idea what to do.

Peter is agitated and paranoid, Luke and Matt are cool but looking around. Logan is not hungover, and still none of them seem to notice the teen standing with them.

Gabrielle- from here on in the group dynamic is a very, very important part of the story. Its how the group interacts with each other that is really interesting and will separate us from other silly team ups.

Either Ocean's Eleven movie does this very well. There are as many movie stars on screen at one time as possible. It creates a genuine excitement just seeing these famous characters talking and reacting.

MATT MURDOCK

Latverian.

PETER PARKER

Do you speak it?

MATT MURDOCK

No.

PETER PARKER

Do you know what we're supposed to do now?

MATT MURDOCK

No.

PETER PARKER

You don't?

MATT MURDOCK

No, you know how you know?

PETER PARKER

Because-

MATT MURDOCK

Because the entire twelve hours we were sitting on the plane, every one of the forty times you asked me...

5- They all look around. Logan winces at the yelling.

PETER PARKER

Ok... I just feel very naked.

MATT MURDOCK

I don't know anything you don't know.

Luke?

LUKE CAGE



I think I just raised the black population in this country by a hundred and fifty percent.

6- Matt stops in his tracks as a woman in a burkha-like bland outfit approaches. He knows who it is before she even speaks.

MATT MURDOCK

Oh no.

BLACK WIDOW

Hi Matthew.

Page 17-

1- From behind the group looking at a smiling almost devilish Black Widow in disguise. She clearly loves being on assignment and is really happy about Matt being there.

MATT MURDOCK

Natasha Romanov

What are you doing here?

BLACK WIDOW

Supposedly Stifling my femininity so I blend in this repressed culture.

But I can't help it if I make even a burka look good.

2- The group- Peter is confused and really not wanting his secret identity let out anymore.

Matt has mixed ex-girlfriend feelings about Black Widow. Luke is looking around because a few people are eyeballing him being a huge black man.

PETER PARKER

Oh man.

BLACK WIDOW

Who are you?

PETER PARKER

Uh, Who are you?

MATT MURDOCK

This is Natasha Romanov. You know her as-

PETER PARKER

The Black Widow. I know. I was just trying desperately to keep my secret identity from someone.

LUKE CAGE

Hey girl.

BLACK WIDOW

Hey, Luke.

3- The Black Widow has turned to lead the group out the front door and the group follows her.

No one notices them. They are just one of five groups of people in the airport.

On the right of the panel- Logan finally notices the teenage girl.

LUKE CAGE

Where we goin'?

BLACK WIDOW

Follow me.

PETER PARKER

Should we all be out in the open like this? All together?

BLACK WIDOW

I know that voice.

PETER PARKER

What about Captain America?

BLACK WIDOW

He knows what he has to do.

LOGAN

Hey Punky Brewster, take a walk that way.

GIRL

I'm with the group.

4- From behind the girl looking at the group. They all stop, turn and look at her.

MATT MURDOCK

Who are you?

5- The girl cocks an eyebrow and keeps her hands in her jacket pockets.

GIRL

If you were supposed to know, you'd know.

6- Same as 4, everyone looks at her like she is an alien except Black Widow who smiles a 'good for you' smile.

Page 18-

1- Ext. Tavern- late day

A mom and pop tavern. Built a hundred years ago and looks every minute of it. All the sign says is TAVERN in Latverian.

A handful of townspeople mill about in their daily lives.

In the distance, Castle Doom hovers over the entire city.

PETER PARKER

So, uh, Where's the guy put this all together?

2- Int. Backroom tavern- Same

The group is gathered in a hardwood, rustically decorated, dimly lit back room of a bar. This room has seen a hundred brawls.

Everyone is a little off their game and in the dark. Everyone looks it except Logan.

Black Widow out of her burcha is scanning the room with a piece of S.H.I.E.L.D. hardware. She is scanning for bugs and prepping the room for the meeting.

There's a knock at the door that turns Luke Cage's head.

PETER PARKER  
And is it yesterday or tomorrow?

BLACK WIDOW  
The rooms clean.

PETER PARKER  
Not what my Aunt would say.

BLACK WIDOW  
No, I mean the room's clean...

3- Black Widow is about to open the door but puts a finger to her mouth to signal everyone to be quiet before she does.

BLACK WIDOW  
(whispers)  
...From other people's ears.

4- Peter turns to an uninterested Logan and mutters...

PETER PARKER  
I am about as out of my element as I have ever been  
in my entire life.

5- Same, Logan just stares at him. He does not care. Peter just mopes.

6- A heavy set, large Latverian woman/ waitress with hoop earrings and skirt comes into the room with a tray of drinks and some food.

Black Widow looks like she wants to help with the tray as she closes the door to what we see is a real tavern outside.

BLACK WIDOW  
You got that, sir?

7- The group sits up at Black Widow's use of the word 'sir' to the waitress. Logan and Matt smirk, they know what is going on.

8- The waitress has put down her tray and touches her watch.

Page 19-

1- The waitress begins to melt. Her face and form melting like she is in a microwave. A little steam billows as she melts.

2- Same, she is really melting into a horrible mass that is disintegrating as it melts. There is something behind the melting woman.

3- The group is disturbed. Peter in particular. The teenager girl looks like she is about to applaud she is so happy.

PETER PARKER

Uh, eeww...

4- Same as 2. The bio-costume has disintegrated and disappears in a billow of steam. It's Nick Fury. He adjusts his jacket and calmly addresses his group.

(The idea of the bio-costume should be a much cooler version of the Mission Impossible masks and the Total Recall disguise.)

NICK FURY

Thank you for joining me.

5- Same as three.

PETER PARKER

That's going to haunt me.

6- Mid-way of the room. Nick walks across the room, all eyes on him.

NICK FURY

About a week ago-

PETER PARKER

I have a question. This is some kind of top secret, secret thing, right?

NICK FURY

Without peer.

PETER PARKER

Then why were we all put on the same plane?

Like, isn't that a bit, I don't know, glaring?

7- From behind Peter looking at Nick who is casually taking Peter's question, but wants to move on.

Logan is getting himself a drink off the tray and offering Luke some food, Luke is passing. Other than that, all eyes on Nick.

NICK FURY

You're a teacher, a lawyer, a kid on spring break, a bodyguard, and whatever Logan is.

PETER PARKER

And Captain America.

NICK FURY

And one hundred and 32 other people aboard that plane.

The only people that would be looking that carefully at something like that is me.

...and I'm not looking.

PETER PARKER

Still...

8- Natasha hands Nick a couple of rolled up maps and a very small, high tech, laptop style device while he calmly talks.

The group behind him sits, Peter sarcastically whispers his remark to Matt.

NICK FURY

Well...

To make up for the gonzo quality of what I am about to ask you to do, I needed you guys to have some quality time together.

Some bonding time- some time to get used to each other.

And I needed you to do it fast.

PETER PARKER

Yeah, I feel bonded.

LUKE CAGE

So lay it down, fury. What are we here for?

Page 20-

1- From behind the group looking up at Nick, who is calmly and sincerely laying it down.

NICK FURY

A week ago, we put together proof that dozens, if not all, of the technologically based theme criminals working in the United States were being funded, through parties, by the Latverian government.

2- Logan, didn't follow it. He wipes his mouth and asks...

LOGAN

The who did what?

3- Nick answers calmly and hits a button on the laptop-ish computer.

A 3-d hologram of Killer Shrike, The Beetle, and a couple of other villains pops up. The villains have the back of their heads to each other and circles. Its a visual presentation of what Nick is describing.

NICK FURY

The tech themed criminals.

The ones in the armor.

The ones with the tech weapons.

They are being funded by this country's government.

4- Matt gets it. He understands the terrorist angle. Peter Parker looks at him. He knows this is bad but doesn't get the whole picture yet.

MATT MURDOCK

Oh my god...

5- Nick, abstracted by the hologram of criminal faces in front of him, succinctly lays it down.

NICK FURY

It is our belief that these people are being placed and positioned for what would be a huge single act...

...or a scheduled series of acts...

...of terrorism.

In a minute, Natasha and I are going to unveil the plan...

6- Peter waves Nick quiet for a second, he doesn't understand...

PETER PARKER

So... if they are there, what are we doing here?

We're just going to break into the castle and what-beat everybody up?

7- Nick doesn't look them in the eye as he tells his half lie.

NICK FURY

No...

...we're going to overthrow their government.

Page 21-

Back to present day



1- Int. Hospital- day

Same angle on Nick from last page but we are back to present time. Back to Luke cage's hospital room.

Same scene, lighting, and dour color scheme from last issue. No time has passed.

Reads: TODAY

Nick is looking down at Luke Cage lying in a coma with wide eyed regret, barely holding back a gravelly sob.

2- From behind Nick and Danny. Over their shoulder's looking down at the still impossible sight of the huge Power man, Luke Cage lying in a coma, oxygen tubes in his nose. He is hooked up to an IV and machinery to keep an eye on his vitals.

Danny Rand aka Iron Fist, in civilian clothes is still in the room. Still holding it together- Luke in this condition is his worst fear realized.

Jessica is just staring at Nick. She knows it has something to do with him.

3- In the foreground, Nick fury turns around at the sound of the voice behind him. Turning towards the doorway of the hospital room.

Danny Rand turns as well, very startled and half standing.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Good lord...

4- From behind Nick and Danny. Captain America, no mask, his costume on underneath a black leather Avengers bomber jacket with an avengers logo on the sleeve, stands full figure in the doorway.

He is stunned, staring at the sight of Luke Cage.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Its true.

And here you are.

5- Tight on Cap's face. He seems like he's just been through the mill a little. Maybe a fight of some sort. Sweaty, a little tossed.

He is staring at Nick like he wants to kill him.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

I told you.

I told you this would happen.

6- From behind Cap as he approaches a guilty looking yet steely eyed Nick Fury, clearly caught off guard by cap's presence, nick does not want to have this conversation in front of anyone.

Jessica and Danny are half sitting, half standing.

NICK FURY

(whispers)

At ease soldier. Not in front of the-

Page 22-

1- Big panel!! Captain America strikes Nick in the face with the back of his gloved hand.

Cap's eyes glassy with anger and betrayal. Its a violent, uncharacteristic outburst that brings Iron-fist and Jessica up to their feet in shock.

Spx: smack

2- Cap catches nick by the collar before he falls backwards. Danny and Jessica both up and shocked by the uncharacteristic violence.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

I told you!!

I told you this would happen!!!

3- From behind Nick, looking up at a slightly backlit Cap. Cap pulls nick up to his face, cap looks more betrayed than raging, cap's emotions swirling to the surface.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Damn you for what you did to us!!

To be continued...